(*d*) the number of Class I and II Officers, if any, involved in respect of cases mentioned in Clause (*a*) and the amount involved?

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forests).—

(*a*) (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) Nil.

Filling up of posts of Vety. and Livestock Inspector

317. SRI B. M. HORAKERI (Guledgud).—Will the Minister of State for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a number of Vety. and Livestock Inspectors posts are vacant in the State;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that most of the Vety. and Livestock Inspectors are holding charge of more than one post for the last 2—3 years;

(*c*) whether Government is aware that timely and adequate Vety. medical aid and services are not made available to the animals in the State;

(*d*) whether the Drought Prone Area Programme, Small Farmers Devt. Agency and Marginal Farmers and Agril. Labourers have increased the Vety. Service work;

(*e*) if so, the steps taken by the Government to recruit the required staff?

SRI B. G. BANAKAR (Minister of State for Animal Husbandry).—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The following steps are under consideration :

1. Direct recruitment and
2. Re-employment of retired persons.

Absence of Members and the Minister to take up

Calling Attention Notice

SRI V. M. GHADI.—I call the attention of the Minister for Labour to the hardship caused due to the strike in the West Coast Paper Mills, Dandeli.

MADAM SPEAKER.—The Hon. Minister is not present to reply to the calling attention notice. We shall take up the next one.